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Message Text

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47
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SR-02 ORM-01 DPW-01 RSC-01 /022 W
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R 281103Z JAN 75
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 224

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: AORG, ICRC
SUBJECT: ICRC OPERATIONS IN ERITREA

PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ICRC GENEVA (MOREILLON)
TO MR. BEDERT, ICRC DELEGATE, HOTEL ALBERGHO DI ROMA,
ASMARA, ETHIOPIA:
QUOTE: THANKS YOUR 23.04.09 TO WHICH WE GIVE LETTER.
BEFORE TRANSMITTING YOUR REQUEST TO CHAPPIUS, MOREILLON SPOKE
WITH TEDLA BAIRU WHO CONFIRMED GENERAL GOITOM, COMMANDER
ERITREAN POLICE, AND AT LEAST FOUR OFFICERS SAME CORPS HAVE GONE
OVER TO ELF RECENTLY. PLEASE CONFIRM THE TWELVE PEOPLE YOU
MENTIONED ARE NOT THIS GROUP.
BAIRU SAID ELF HAS AT LEAST ONE ETHIOPIAN NAVAL OFFICER IN
THEIR HANDS SINCE 18 MONTHS AND POSSIBLY OTHER PRISONERS OF
LESSER IMPORTANCE. CAN YOU ASSESS NUMBER CAPTIVES IN
ELF HANDS.
BAIRU HIMSELF STILL VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF ICRC VISITS TO
PRISONERS IN ELF HANDS BUT IS UNABLE TO PROMPT DECISION FROM
FAR AWAY. SAYS THAT IDEALLY YOU SHOULD BE REQUESTED BY
DERGUE TO VISIT POW IN ELF HANDS WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY YOUR
CONTACTING ELF ON THE SPOT AND THUS DISCUSS ALL HUMANITARIAN
PROBLEMS WITH DECISION MAKERS.
BAIRU MENTIONS ERITREAN COMMITTEE OF SOME 30 ELDERS
WHO HAVE OFFICIALLY ACTED AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN DERGUE AND
ELF. IF YOU WERE TO BE REQUESTED BY DERGUE TO DISCUSS
HUMANITARIAN MATTERS WITH ELF, YOU COULD REACH ELF THROUGH
COMMITTEE OF ELDERS AND OF COURSE DO IT OFFICIALLY.
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WILL TRANSMIT YOUR REQUEST TO CHAPPIUS AS SOON AS YOU
ANSWER OUR SECOND AND THIRD. END QUOTE.DALE

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TAGS: AORG, ICRC
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